



An important notice from
JONES STATE FOREST

Dear Neighbor,

Texas A&M Forest Service soon will be conducting standard forest management activities at the Jones State Forest. As a result, foresters will restrict access to parts of the forest over the next several months as weather permits to complete the work.

We apologize in advance for any inconvenience this may cause. We assure you the work is being done with two goals in mind: maintaining forest health and ensuring community safety.

— The Jones State Forest Team

**PRESCRIBED
BURNING**

Wildfires can destroy homes, natural resources and wildlife habitats.

Controlled fire reduces brush and debris in the forest, which in turn lessens the threat of wildfires and promotes healthy forests.

**MECHANICAL
MULCHING**

Mechanical mulching is used in areas where burning isn't feasible.

Brush and debris are mulched into fine chips and then spread on the forest floor where it decomposes and no longer is a threat.

**EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES**

*Texas Wildlife &
Woodland Expo
& Spring Fling*
<http://expo.tamu.edu>

*Texas Master
Naturalist Training*
www.heartwoodtmn.org

**GOT
QUESTIONS?**

Contact John Warner
Urban District Forester
Conroe District Office
Phone: 936-273-2261

E-mail
jonesstateforest@tfs.tamu.edu

Web
[texasforests.tamu.edu/
jonesstateforest](http://texasforests.tamu.edu/jonesstateforest)

DON'T GET BURNED!

**TAKE THESE STEPS TO PROTECT
YOUR HOME FROM WILDFIRES:**

- Remove leaves and pine needles from around homes, decks and fences.
- Prune low-hanging branches, as well as those over the chimney.
- Dispose of cuttings and debris promptly and follow local regulations.

Learn more about protecting your home from wildfires at www.firewise.org.



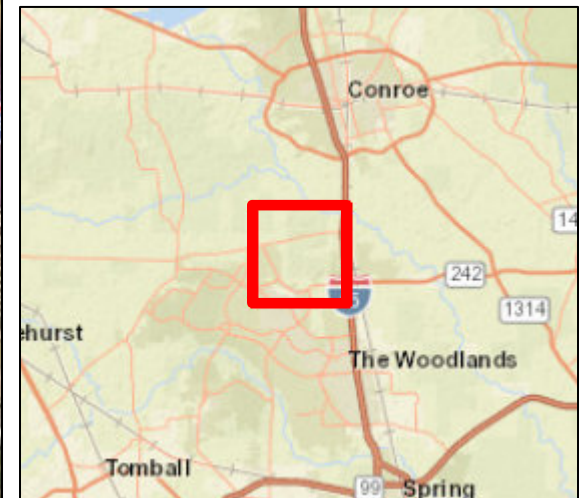


Proposed Prescribed Burning Areas

Created: 1/6/2020



Created using Map My Property in TexasForestInfo.tamu.edu



Prescribed *burning*

Prescribed burning is the intentional use of fire to reduce wildfire hazards, clear downed trees, control plant diseases, control invasive species, improve rangeland and wildlife habitats and restore natural ecosystems.

Fire is a natural ecological process and the use of prescribed fire can be both an effective management tool and a contribution to public safety by reducing hazardous accumulations of wildland fuels (vegetation).

The use of prescribed burning is not without risks.



Texas A&M Forest Service's role in prescribed burning

- ▶ Texas A&M Forest Service is an advocate of the benefits of prescribed burning through public education and involvement with the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Prescribed Burning Board.
- ▶ TFS does not conduct prescribed burning on private property based on state competition to private vendors and increased liability to landowners.
- ▶ TFS burn managers are trained and meet national standards (National Wildfire Coordinating Group) to allow cooperative burn efforts with state and federal agencies.
- ▶ TFS conducts prescribed burning on state/public lands to reduce hazardous fuels (5,298 acres in 2009) and for other land management reasons (3,775 acres in 2010).
- ▶ TFS is responsible for the coordination and delivery of burn management training courses within Region 4 of the TDA Prescribed Burn Board.
- ▶ TFS manages approximately \$60,000 in federal-source grants each year to help fund prescribed burning for eligible private landowners, within 2 miles of a National Forest, who utilize certified prescribed burn managers (Community Protection Grants).

Limitations on prescribed burning in Texas



The need for prescribed burning in Texas exceeds the amount being conducted. For prescribed burning the primary limitations are: smoke management and liability for damages.

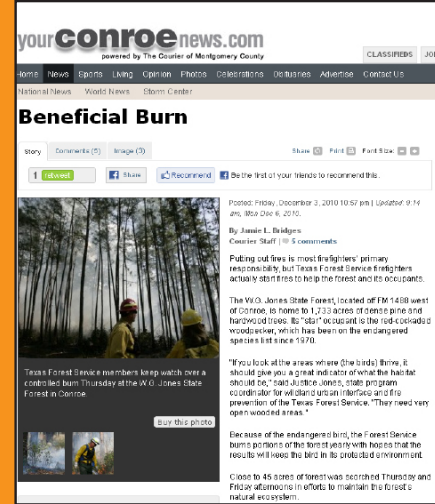
▶ Smoke management

Prescribed burning produces smoke. If not carefully managed, smoke can be a nuisance to residents and businesses, can adversely affect community health and contribute pollution levels that exceed air quality standards.

▶ Liability

The burn manager is required to carry at least \$1 million of liability insurance coverage (single occurrence) with a policy period minimum aggregate of at least \$2 million. In some cases, the cost of this insurance may limit the practice of prescribed burning.

Notifying the public when a prescribed burn is conducted on the Jones State Forest



One week prior to burn, Texas Forest Service:

Sends an email notification to:

- Texas Environmental Commission on Environmental Quality
- Local fire departments
- Local government
- Local development and property managers

Notifies local media of the scheduled burn

Throughout the year, Texas A&M Forest Service:

Mails a postcard of the state forest management schedule to surrounding home and landowners

Hosts educational workshops on the state forest ecology process

Invites neighbors to various forest activities

Invites local media to participate in forest management demonstrations

The goal is to familiarize neighbors with the State Forest programs and focus on prescribed burning as a tool for management as well as a way to protect neighbors from wildfire.

“Dear Neighbor,
Texas A&M Forest Service soon will be conducting standard forest management activities at the W. Goodrich Jones State Forest. As a result, foresters will restrict access to parts of the forest over the next several months as weather permits to complete the work. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience this may cause. We assure you the work is being done with two goals in mind: maintaining forest health and ensuring community safety.
”

— The W. Goodrich Jones State Forest Team

TEXAS FOREST SERVICE
The Texas A&M University System

W. GOODRICH JONES STATE FOREST

An important notice from

Dear Neighbor,
 Texas Forest Service soon will be conducting standard forest management activities at the W. Goodrich Jones State Forest. As a result, foresters will restrict access to parts of the forest over the next several months as weather permits to complete the work.
 We apologize in advance for any inconvenience this may cause. We assure you the work is being done with two goals in mind: maintaining forest health and ensuring community safety.

—The W. Goodrich Jones State Forest Team

PREScribed BURNING
 Wildfires can destroy homes, natural resources and wildlife habitats. Controlled fire reduces brush and debris in the forest, which in turn lessens the threat of wildfires and promotes healthy forests.

MECHANICAL MULCHING
 Mechanical mulching is used in areas where burning isn't feasible. Brush and debris are mulched into fine chips and then spread on the forest floor where it decomposes and no longer is a threat.

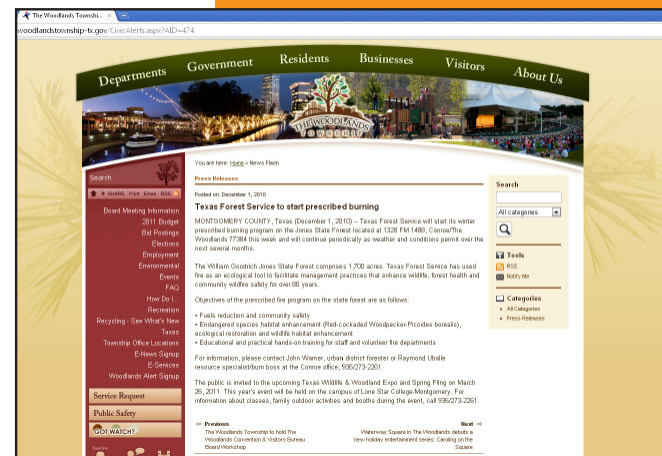
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
 Texas Wildlife & Woodland Expo/Spring Fling
 March 26, 2011
<http://expo.texas.edu>
 Texas Master Naturalist Training
 Starts March 19, 2011
www.hartwoodman.com

GOT QUESTIONS?
 Contact John Warner
 Urban District Forester
 Conroe District Office
 Phone: 936-273-2261
 E-mail: jwarner@tfs.texas.edu
 Web: texasforestservice.texas.edu
jonesstateforest.com

DON'T GET BURNED!
 TAKE THESE STEPS TO PROTECT YOUR HOME FROM WILDFIRES:

- Remove leaves and pine needles from around homes, decks and fences.
- Prune low-hanging branches, as well as those over the chimney.
- Dispose of cuttings and debris promptly and follow local regulations.

Learn more about protecting your home from wildfires at www.firewise.org.



How prescribed burning is regulated

Outdoor Burning Rule, Title 30, Texas Administrative Code, Sections 111.201–221

Its purpose is to protect the environment, promote public health and safety, and avoid nuisance conditions through the sensible regulation of outdoor burning. A copy of the rule can be obtained from the **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality** at 512-239-0028 or www.tceq.state.tx.us/rules.

Air quality complaints may be submitted to complaint@tceq.state.tx.us.

The **Prescribed Burning Board of the Texas Department of Agriculture** sets standards for prescribed burning; develops a comprehensive training curriculum for prescribed-burn managers and sets standards for their certification, recertification and training; establishes minimum education and professional requirements for instructors for the approved curriculum; and sets minimum insurance requirements for prescribed-burn managers.